

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



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22 JUNE 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Communist China

a. We have seen no evidence of further ground deployments during the past 24 hours, but there has been a further movement of jet fighters in the direction of the East China Sea coast. [redacted]

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b. We have uncovered what may be a new clue to Chinese Communist intentions. It appears [redacted]

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[redacted] that planning for the recent troop movements by the railroad authorities concerned may have begun last February. Although this partial evidence does not permit a firm conclusion, it is enough to throw some doubt on the conjecture that the Chinese Communists have been reacting to recent rumblings from Taiwan. [redacted]

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2. Laos

The AP is reporting from Vientiane this morning that the three factions are once again completely at odds on the National Assembly issue after Phoumi doubled back on an agreement reached yesterday. We are up in the air until we learn more. It had seemed that this snag had been removed by a compromise arrangement under which the National Assembly was to vote full powers to the King, who in turn was to invest the government tomorrow without reference to the Assembly.

3. Congo

The Congo negotiations are again suspended. Tshombé broke them off yesterday after making his charges that central government forces had attacked in Katanga. This has all the earmarks of a Tshombé invention to justify his returning to Elisabethville. UN officials are, however, trying to put a scare into him, and seem to have had some effect, by telling him that they will have the full backing of "military powers" if fighting resumes. The UN chief has, in fact, called on New York headquarters to be in a state of readiness and has ordered his troops in Elisabethville to be prepared for any eventuality.

4. Algeria

OAS destruction goes on in Oran and Bone, but Algiers is returning to something like normality. Our Consul General in Algiers believes that the moderate leaders of the Provisional Algerian Government are now less worried about the OAS than about the challenge posed by the radical nationalists headed by Deputy Premier Ben Bella and backed by the Liberation Army. The French, it is suspected, are trying to give the moderates maximum time for maneuver by keeping their forces in place along the Tunisian and Moroccan borders, thereby blocking the Liberation Army's access to Algeria.

5. Thailand-Cambodia

Thai anger over the temple affair is for the moment focused mainly on the French because of the support French legal advisors provided for the Cambodian side. The Thai ambassador to Paris has been called home. Ambassador Young believes that the Thai attitude will complicate the Geneva conference and any possible operations by the French military mission in Laos.

6. Indonesia

a. Ambassador Jones suspects that the Indonesians are stalling on setting a date for the reopening of talks with the Dutch until Soviet Marshal Vershinin, who is now visiting Djakarta, leaves on June 30. The thought is that the Indonesians do not want to give offense to Moscow by announcing resumption of the US-sponsored talks while the Marshal is in Indonesia.

b. There are indications in Indonesian [redacted] that the USSR is about to deliver from 6 to 10 more TU-16 jet medium bombers to Djakarta. This would round out the number delivered at 30. [redacted]

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NOTES

- A. Press dispatches from Khartoum report that Sudan has ratified the air agreement giving the USSR landing rights and onward flight privileges into Africa. There is no official confirmation yet, but we would assume the reports are true.
- B. [redacted] 50X1
conference of the Casablanca powers--UAR, Morocco, Mali, Guinea and Ghana--veered noticeably in a pro-Western direction. Nasir, Touré and Keita, in particular, are said to have questioned the Soviet bloc's intentions in Africa.
- C. Sporadic bomb explosions in Guatemala City mark the revival of unrest there. [redacted] plotting against Ydigoras remains endemic. Opponents of the government based in Mexico are buying arms and supplies with funds provided in part by Cuba. 50X1
- D. The Cambodians are so far holding the lid down on their reaction to the South Vietnamese border incursion. They have made no mention of the participation of "white men" in the action.
- E. Couve de Murville has told Secretary Rusk that the French have no wish to press for a reorganization of NATO until the question of Britain's membership in the EEC has been settled.
- F. Yugoslavia is facing another shortfall in its grain crop this year, which would make the third in a row. The prospect is that the wheat and rye crop will total only 2,800,000 metric tons, 1,200,000 tons below domestic requirements. 50X1
- [redacted]